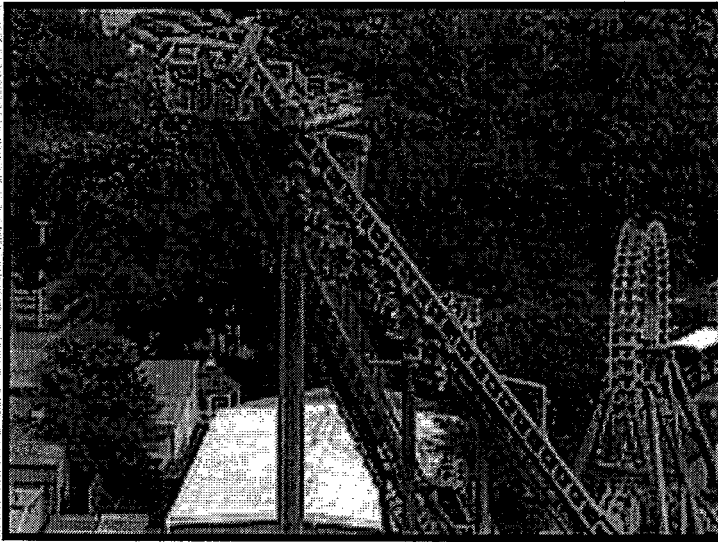


**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

# **STRANDED!**



July 7, 2003

Dear Colleague:

Twenty five people suffered a day trip gone bad last Tuesday when the "Two Face: The Flip Side" roller coaster at Six Flags in Largo, MD left them suspended upside down for nearly two hours. Accidents like this, and the nearly 7,000 other injuries that occur each year on "fixed" (unregulated) amusement park rides continue to go unreported to the nation's only federal regulatory agency, the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC), the result of a special-interest exemption in our safety laws known as "the roller coaster loophole." Accidents or injuries occurring on the thousands of fixed rides nationwide are never documented, researched or corrected because of this exemption from CPSC regulation.

This unfair and dangerous double-standard should end. Amusement park rides carrying children at speeds of 70, 80 or, in one case, 120 mph are the last place we should tolerate the exercise of political muscle to eliminate standard safety oversight. It is time to reverse this two-faced agenda. Please help close the roller coaster loophole by cosponsoring HR 2207, the National Amusement Park Ride Safety Act of 2003. Please contact me or David Moulton at 225-2836.

Sincerely,

/s/

Edward J. Markey  
Member of Congress